

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 8, 2008

The Emergency Management Advisory Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Advisory Council members present were: Chairman Nathan Miller, Dave Reagan, Mike Kyger, Commissioner Ruth Shedd, Carol Shelby, Garry Smith, John Walker and Jimmy Kesterson. Also present were Director Mark Kirby and Secretary Jennifer Prange.

Garry Smith moved to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2007 regular meeting, second by John Walker; motion carried.

Committee Reports

Dave Reagan, recommended establishing new goals for the Communications Committee. He suggested collaborating efforts with Purdue University on the Emergency Notification System.

Carol Shelby spoke regarding Purdue's Emergency Notification System. Purdue has chosen the II/SMS system which provides the level of reliability necessary for the university. With recent testing, 50,000 people were notified within six minutes via email and 20,000 notified within seven minutes via text message. This system is only one portion of a multi-layer warning system at Purdue which has several options depending on the type of emergencies.

Reverse 911

Director Kirby reported the Reverse 911 System has not made any progress. He explained the local call system for Reverse 911 has been a major issue and the Sheriff's Office has not found satisfactory means for initiating local calls. Director Kirby again stressed the importance of this system for TEMA.

Director's Report

With the heavy rains, flooding on the Tippecanoe River is an immediate hazard to White and Carroll Counties. Evacuation of residents on the river is underway and Director Kirby is coordinating the efforts for shelter and emergency personnel to assist.

The Mobile Operations Communications Vehicle has recently received upgrades including a satellite radio and improvements to the mass camera.

Tippecanoe County will receive approximately \$120,000 to purchase equipment for the District IV Task Force. This task force will be comprised of 150-200 individuals with different disciplines to be deployed in an emergency in the state or nationwide. Director Kirby has assigned Deputy Director Batta to collaborate the local efforts for the District Task Force.

Director Kirby confirmed the siren project is moving forward as planned. He added the process is slower than originally expected, but progress is being made.

The Red Cross' new facility has the capability of an Emergency Operations Center. Director Kirby has discussed the options with Red Cross Director Debbie Elsner for use in the event of a long-term emergency. The center is equipped with a kitchen, showers, and a large parking lot.

Chairman Nathan Miller spoke regarding the Emergency Operations Core Group. He suggested TEMA establish a core group for emergency response in the event of a crisis. Director Kirby gave details regarding the group and prospective members. He noted that members vary with each challenge and Director Kirby would establish the core group according to the emergency. He added Martin Webb has a great deal of experience in this area and would directly assist with facilitating the logistics of an emergency response.

Chairman Miller suggested meeting monthly in an effort to resolve some of the larger issues before the advisory council. With meetings scheduled monthly, he felt goals could be accomplished quicker with better communication. Director Kirby mentioned offered to update the committee via email on the off months to keep the council up to date.

Jimmy Kesterson moved to establish monthly meetings starting in February 2008 through July 2008, second Garry Smith; motion carried 5-2.

The next meeting will be February 12, 2008.

Commissioner Shedd moved to adjourn.